



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Yong-Pil Han et al.      Group Art Unit: 1763  
 Serial No.: 09/498,303      Examiner: T. Dang  
 Filed: February 4, 2000  
 For: HF VAPOR PHASE WAFER CLEANING AND OXIDE ETCHING

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
 WASHINGTON, DC 20231

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a)  
 that this correspondence is being  
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 Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
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#5  
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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT FILED PURSUANT  
 TO THE DUTY OF DISCLOSURE UNDER 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, AND §1.98**

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, §1.97, and §1.98, the Applicants  
 request consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement.

**Compliance with 37 CFR §1.97:**

This Information Disclosure Statement is hereby filed under §1.97 (c) at a time prior to  
 the mailing date of a final action or notice of allowance.

Please apply the amount of \$180.00 to cover the fee under 1.17(p) to Deposit Account  
 No. 19-2553. If any other fees are required, or there are any credits, please also apply such to  
 Deposit Account No. 19-2553.

**Information Cited:**

The Applicants hereby make of record in the instant application the information listed on  
 the attached Form PTO-1449 (modified). The order of presentation of the references on the form

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is substantially chronological and should not be construed as an indication of the importance of the references. A copy of each of the listed items is enclosed.

Items V1, W1, X1, Y1, Z1, AA1, N2, C4, N4, G5, H5, J5, and K5 were all cited in the International Search Report for International Application PCT/US00/02840, the International Application counterpart to the instant application. A copy of the International Search Report is included for the Examiner's reference.

Item AA1 is a Japanese patent that is not an English language document. An English-language translation of the abstract of this document is provided as item H5. Both items AA1 and H5 were cited in the PCT Search Report for the counterpart International application, and as just explained, accompanying this response is provided an English-language version of the PCT Search Report, indicating the degree of relevance of the documents. As prescribed by MPEP 609 III A(3) (p. 600-122) the Examiner must consider the Item AA1 document, even though it is not in the English language, because the Applicants are herewith providing a copy of the English-language PCT Search Report citing the Item.

The Applicants respectfully request that:

1. The Examiner consider completely the cited information in reaching a determination concerning the patentability of the pending claims;
2. The enclosed Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B be signed by the Examiner and a signed copy returned to the undersigned Agent to evidence that the cited information has been fully considered by the Patent and Trademark Office during the examination of this application;
3. The citations for the information listed on the enclosed Forms PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B be printed on any patent which issues from this application.

In submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that a search has been performed, of the extent of any search performed, or that more relevant information does not exist.

In submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b).

In submitting this Information Disclosure Statement, the Applicants make no representation that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, in fact, prior art as defined by 35 U.S.C. §102.

Notwithstanding any statements by the Applicants, the Examiner is urged to form his own conclusion regarding the relevance of the cited information.

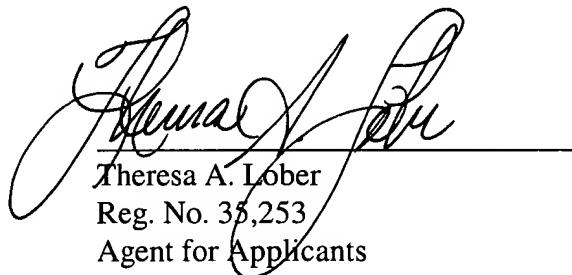
An early and favorable action is hereby requested.

Respectfully Submitted

Date:

  
July 12, 2002

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